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## JAPAN.

*Report from Yokohama.*YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *February 18, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith an abstract of the bills of health issued at this port during the week ended February 15, 1902: There were inspected 5 vessels, with 523 crew, 74 cabin and 327 steerage passengers; 452 persons were bathed, and their baggage was disinfected. The health of the port remains good, and no quarantinable disease has been reported.

Respectfully,

J. SPENCER HOUGH,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.**Plague in Nagasaki.*

[Cablegram.]

YOKOHAMA, *March 13, 1902.*WYMAN, *Washington*: Plague is now present in Nagasaki.—HOUGH.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

*Inspection service at St. John.*ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, *March 10, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that during the week ended March 8, the following vessels and their crews were inspected at this port: Steamer, 1; schooners, 3; seamen, 77.

Respectfully,

T. DYSON WALKER,

*United States Medical Inspector.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

## NORWAY.

*The use of proper cuspidors in the fight against tuberculosis.*BERGEN, NORWAY, *February 21, 1902.*

In the same degree as the knowledge of consumption and the way of spreading contagion of named disease has advanced, the importance of collecting and destroying the expectorations of the consumptive persons as soon as possible has become more and more evident. As a rule these expectorations contain a great quantity of tubercular bacilli. A German scientist (Heller) has calculated that a consumptive person discharges, on an average, not less than 7,000,000,000 bacilli a day.

If the consumptive person expectorates on floors and carpets, or such like, the phlegm dries up into fine powder, which, if mixed up with dust, etc., will be diffused throughout the room. If this dust is afterwards inhaled by a person susceptible of consumption, it may happen that he contracts this dangerous and dreadful disease. The bad habit of expectorating anywhere is the general cause of infection through clothes, carpets, and furniture, etc. (from apartments which have been inhabited by consumptive people), and thus persons who have inherited same or come across them at auctions, contract the disease. The habit of expectorating on the floors in schools, factories, barracks, churches,

hotels, railway coaches, and other general institutions, is not less dangerous. As consumption is prevalent among mankind, we may take it for granted that there will always be one or two persons in these places who cough, and expectorate contagious phlegm. If this phlegm is allowed to dry on floors or carpets, and is later on stirred up in the air by persons engaged in cleaning, dusting, or playing on those spots, the disease is easily transferred to them.

Everybody ought to make earnest efforts at giving up the dangerous and loathsome habit of expectorating on the floors within doors. It is not sufficient to caution only the consumptive to be particular in this regard, because it is impossible to know whether coughing and expectorating individuals cough on account of being consumptive, or as a consequence of some harmless complaint. Moreover, various maladies are contracted through expectorated phlegm, as, for instance, catarrhs, bronchitis, pneumonia, influenza, whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, etc.

It is the duty of the healthy to set the sick a good example. The same precautions which are expected from sick people should be shown them in return by the healthy, who ultimately should accustom themselves never to expectorate within doors in anything else than vessels intended for that purpose, a moderate demand, which, in the interest of health and cleanliness, ought to be respected by the whole of humanity.

Dr. Rikardt von Post, of Eskilstuna, Sweden, has constructed serviceable cuspidors for general use in homes and public places. Ordinary open cuspidors, generally to be found in front of the fireplaces, are not serviceable. These cuspidors which stand on the floor have many disadvantages, and one of them is, that one easily expectorates outside the vessel. Besides that, children and dogs playing in the room may happen to soil themselves with their contents, and in addition to all, the exterior is exceedingly repulsive. Cuspidors ought to look neat and clean. They should be possessed of lids, closing by themselves and shutting out the view of their loathsome contents, which moreover would prevent flies and other insects from carrying parts of same round about the apartment. The shape and style of the cuspidors must be such that they could never be taken for domestic appliances, such as milk jugs, sauce tureens, or cups, etc. There ought to be three kinds of cuspidors, one applied to the wall at such a height that there could be no question of expectorating outside the vessel and permitting an easy cleaning of same; one kind for the night stand, to be conducted to the mouth by means of the hand, and finally a cup that could be carried in the pocket.

The cup intended for the night stand or sick bed should be so constructed that the bedridden person can use it without raising his head from the pillow or getting up. Dr. von Post has, as aforesaid, invented serviceable cuspidors. There are two kinds of wall cups and one hand cup. As pocket cup, the so-called Dettweiler cup can be recommended as being the best hitherto known for people staying at sanitariums.

The wall cup No. 1 is intended for corridors, staircases, and halls in general, as well as for schools, factories, and ordinary apartments. The wall cup No. 2, of a shape preventing all splashing over or upsetting of contents, is intended for places having in a certain sense movable walls, such as railway coaches and steamers, etc. Both these cups have hinges which cause the lid to close by itself when let loose. The cup itself is neat and clean though plain, and will not spoil the appearance of the walls. The best place for same is beside the heating stove, where it should be screwed or nailed up at a height of a little more

than 1 yard above the floor. The cup is fastened on the hook of the plate and the lid by means of 2 pintles. Before the cup is used some water or other fluid preventing contagion should be poured into same. The cleaning is done thus: By drawing out the lower pintle the cup is unfastened from the wall and the contents thrown into the sewer or privy, whereafter the cup is rinsed with hot water and put back in its place.

The hand cup is intended for the night stand and working table or the wall during daytime, and at night for the night stand. The construction of same is so that it can be fitted into a socket in either place. It is also intended for use in factories, schools, etc., and may be attached to the working table or desk of individuals suffering from cough, who can not continually leave their seats to use the wall cup without being disturbed in their work. The hand cup is put up thus: Two screws or nails are fastened at a sufficient height on the wall or edge of the respective working table or night stand. Application and cleaning similar with the wall cups. The neck of this cup is not in the middle, as on ordinary vessels, but behind. Through this arrangement the advantage is gained that the bedridden individual need not raise himself up every time he expectorates, which generally increases the cough. Moreover, the contents of the cup flow away and do not show when conducted to the mouth. Other advantages of these cups are that same are manufactured of steel plate instead of glass and porcelain, and can be attached to the wall instead of standing loose on the tables. Thus they are always at hand in their fixed places. These cuspidors are manufactured by the Eskilstuna Stålpläsningsbolag, at Eskilstuna, Sweden, and patented in that country. They are made of white sheet iron, enameled plate, and nickle plate, as well as aluminum, and in several sizes. Through the courtesy of Dr. von Post I am in possession of 2 samples of these cuspidors, which I forward by parcels post.

The second model of the wall cup is as yet not obtainable, but should one be desired later on I will be pleased to procure same.

These models of cuspidors have won the approval of all Sweden, and there are reasons to believe that same will be adopted at all sanatoriums and also public institutions as well as in private homes, etc.

VICTOR E. NELSON,  
*United States Consul.*

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

NOVA SCOTIA.

*Inspection of immigrants at Halifax and St. John.*

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, March 8, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended March 8, 1902, there were inspected 2,360 immigrants; passed, 2,341; detained, 19. \* \* \*

During the week ended March 8, 1902, there was inspected at the port of St. John, New Brunswick, 1 immigrant; passed, none; detained, 1. \* \* \*

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,  
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*